

WFO Peachtree City Receives 1st Quarter 2003 SR Aviation Services Award

WFO Peachtree City, GA earned the 2003 1st Quarter Southern Region Aviation Services Excellence Award for outstanding work during January, February, and March 2003. They earned the award for their TAF accuracy, aviation discussion products, outreach efforts, and strong program leadership. The office will have its name inscribed on the SR Aviation Services Excellence Award trophy. SR has 4 aviation trophies, 1 for each quarter. The trophy for each respective quarter remains at the receiving office for at least 1 year. In this case, WFO Peachtree City will hold the 1st Quarter trophy until the 2004 1st Quarter recipient is announced. With such an outstanding program, it could be WFO Peachtree City again.

WFO Peachtree City was a top SR performer in TAF accuracy during the 1st quarter of 2003. They exceeded the national performance goals for IFR POD and FAR. In addition to forecaster skill, the use of the aviation forecast verification software, **Aviation Verify**, has provided insight on improving on aviation forecasts by illuminating forecast biases

The staff at WFO Peachtree City led by Aviation Program Leader, Von Woods, began issuing a daily 'aviation' area forecast discussion at 6:00 a.m. This aviation section, appended to the AFD product, has provided important information to the staff at CWSU Atlanta as they open their station each morning. It has improved the quality of CWSU Atlanta's early morning briefings.

The office also held a "Meet the Customers" workshop in which aviation community members discussed their weather information needs with WFO staff. Participants said this was one of the most enlightening workshops the WFO has ever conducted. Forecast practices have improved, as a result. For example, forecasters are now more aware of specific airport minimums and how a TAF impacts arrival/departure rates. Outreach efforts continued with the visits to the Macon AFSS and to the Georgia Civil Air Patrol.

In addition, Aviation Program Leader, Von Woods was a finalist for the 1st Quarter ASB Aviation Individual Award. MIC Lans Rothfusz noted this about Von, "His leadership has clearly increased the aviation forecasting skill and quality in WFO Peachtree City. Congratulations to Lans, Von, and the entire WFO Atlanta aviation team.